The Hampden Hippocrat

A Bulletin for the Hampden District of the Massachusetts Medical Society

VOLUME XVI APRIL, 1960 NO. 4

THE DOCTOR AND HIS HOBBY
(See Page 20)

ANNUAL MEETING — APRIL 26
(See Page 15)

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MEDICAL SOCIETY
MAGAZINE GROUP

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Nominating . . . . . Ambrose J. Connelly, M. D.

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The Hampden Hippocrat

"Life is short and art is long, the occasion fleeting, experience fallacious and judgment difficult."
Hippocrates

Published monthly except July and August

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THE HAMPDEN HIPPOCRAT, APRIL, 1960

EDITORIALS

Political Straws

Even if the "Forand Bill", or a facsimile thereof, fails enactment at this session of Congress, similar legislation seems unquestionably in the offing as part of the platform of both political parties during the next national election. This is not only because politicians have always been partial to give-away deals, but also because some of our older citizens are both short of money and in need of medical care.

Eight percent of the United States population is 65 years old and over. This percentage is certain to increase as time goes on. Unfortunately this group manifests an incidence of chronic disease in the order of 592 per thousand. It utilizes 2.58 days of hospital care per person per year and spends 62 percent more on medicine than the population as a whole.

Although some oldsters work beyond the age of 65 and have some savings, a pension, or a family to care for them, the majority do not. Some may be fortunate enough to have Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield, which was contracted during employment and converted to an individual contract upon retirement. However, many have not obtained individual insurance before 65 and lost commercial group coverage upon retirement at 65. Moreover, the "Blue plans" will not accept the latter. Nevertheless voluntary prepayment plans and health insurance have made phenomenal advances during recent years. It is estimated that already 43 percent of those over 65 who wish to

purchase such insurance will be covered.

The clamor still persists, particularly in political circles, that only through a program like the "Forand Bill", can the problem of medical care for the aged be solved. Others offer "practical alternatives" such as the Kennedy Bill, the "G. O. P. version of the Forand Bill" etc. but all are afflicted with the same symptomatology: compulsion, regimentation and third party control.

The Forand bill, introduced in 1957, would provide up to 60 days of hospital care, 120 days of nursing home care and payment of surgical bills for Social Security pensioners aged 65 and over. To pay for it the Social Security tax would have to be boosted one-half percent, with employer and employee paying a quarter each.

Organized medicine, as might well be expected, is unalterably opposed to any "Forand" type of legislation. Our own District Society, in a recent census, voted 366 to two against it. The AMA objects to it because it " . . . would establish a system of medical care under which patients, physicians and hospitals would take orders from the Federal Government." At the last Council meeting of the MMS a resolution was adopted favoring federal aid for the elderly persons who are in financial need but objecting strenuously against the Forand type of legislation which would subsidize poor and rich alike. And what about the many who suffer from old age, poverty and illness but are not covered by Social Security at all?

In 1958 the AMA acting jointly with the American Hospital Association, the American Dental Association and the American Nursing Home Association, sponsored the Joint Council to Improve the Health Care of the Aged.

(continued on page 24)

OUR SECRETARY BOWS OUT

We learn with deep regret that Dr. Harry Memery has declared himself unavailable for re-election as secretary of the District Society.

This is sad news, to say the least. Good secretaries are hard to find, and Harry seemed just right for this very exacting and demanding office. During his several years of service to the Society, first as assistant to Dr. Allen Rice and later as secretary on his own, he proved himself consistently dedicated and meticulously proficient. His charm and affability will be missed by everybody but most of all by the newcomers who always found him amiable and helpful. The Hippocrat has always had a warm spot for our retiring secretary for his whole-hearted co-operation at all times.

It is safe to predict that before long our Society will find other ways of utilizing to good advantage Harry's many fine gifts and talents.

M. M.

The opinions expressed in The Hampden Hippocrat do not necessarily represent the official viewpoint of The Hampden District Medical Society — Editor.

President's Page

Annual Report

The past several years have seen the medical profession in this country belabored as never before in our history. You are all familiar with the many attempts to socialize the practice of medicine in the last twenty years or so. Today the possibility is greater than ever that some form of health coverage for the aged will be established, particularly since this is an election year.

In another direction, doctors have become fair game for attacks in the national magazines: "Does Your Doctor Know What He's Doing," "Why You May Have Grounds for Malpractice Action," etc. Practically every magazine carries some such article, each undermining our relationships with our patients more and more.

And then there is the high cost of "medical care". I hope none of you will ever fail to take a few moments to point out that if the cost of being sick has risen, it is almost entirely contained in hospital and drug cost increases. The doctor's share of the patient's dollar has gone down, not up since 1929.

Now, as never before, it is vital to be accessible to your patients, to be interested in them as persons, and to be reasonable in your fees. If you are all these things, no one can ask for more.

As this is my final message, I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to our councilors, committee members, and committee chairmen for their cooperation and devotion to the affairs of the Society. These are the men who sacrifice their own leisure time to work for the interests of all of us.

In conclusion, may I again express my appreciation to the Fellows for the honor of serving as president. I am somewhat surprised to complete my term without having been impeached, and I extend to my successor my very best wishes for a similar outcome to his own term of office.

Thank you.
John A. Burke, M.D.

AVOID CONFLICTING MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society will be held at the Hotel Statler on May 17, 18, and 19. In order to encourage everybody to attend, members of our District Society are urged to cancel hospital conferences, and to avoid all other conflicting meetings during the three-day period of the State Meeting.

Harry N. Memery, Secretary

COMING EVENTS

HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY,
ANNUAL MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1960

Springfield Academy of Medicine, Annual Meeting, May 10, 1960 (See page 28)

MASS. MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETING, MAY 17, 18 and 19,
HOTEL STATLER, BOSTON

A. M. A. ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 13 - 17, 1960, MIAMI BEACH, FLA.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (1959-1960)

The Executive Committee met monthly with excellent attendance by the members. Summaries of each meeting have been published in The Hippocrat in order to keep the membership fully informed of business accomplished.

The Grievance Committee had a relatively light year with only six complaints requiring action. Four complaints were brought by physicians and two by patients and only one of the complaints involved a fee. No cases were referred to the Committee on Ethics and Discipline.

Harry N. Memery, M. D.
Secretary

ANNUAL REPORT of the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (1959-1960)

John Ayres was replaced by Dr. William Cosgriff on the committee at the time Dr. Cosgriff replaced Dr. Ayres as Municipal Health Commissioner.

Three meetings were held during the year, on Oct. 21, 1959, Nov. 11, 1959, and on February 17, 1960. The committee has no recommendations to offer.

At the request of Mr. Robert T. Berry, Director of Health, Physical Education and Safety of the Public Schools of Springfield, the committee sponsored a letter to the doctors of the District, requesting the cooperation of the doctors in supporting the rules of the School Committee.

Also at the request of Mr. Berry the committee will list those common emergencies to which school children are liable, and what physicians may expect teachers to do in these emergencies.

Norman A. Pokorny, M. D.,
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT of the REHABILITATION COMMITTEE (1959-1960)

The following report is informational only.

One meeting of the Rehabilitation Committee of the Hampden District Medical Society was held recently in the office of Mayor O'Connor of Springfield, Massachusetts. The purpose of the meeting which was called by the Mayor was to discuss the problem of continuing rehabilitation service in the City of Springfield, due to the recent news of the closing of the Bay State Center.

The problems of re-establishing another Center were discussed with Mayor O'Connor and it was the feeling of the Committee that such a Center should be established with local autonomy and direction, and should be total in its scope.

The Mayor took the advice of the Committee under advisement and appointed a special commission of which your chairman is a member to investigate and report to him at a later date. The investigation is in the process of being completed at the present time.

Edward J. Ferrarone, M. D.,
Chairman

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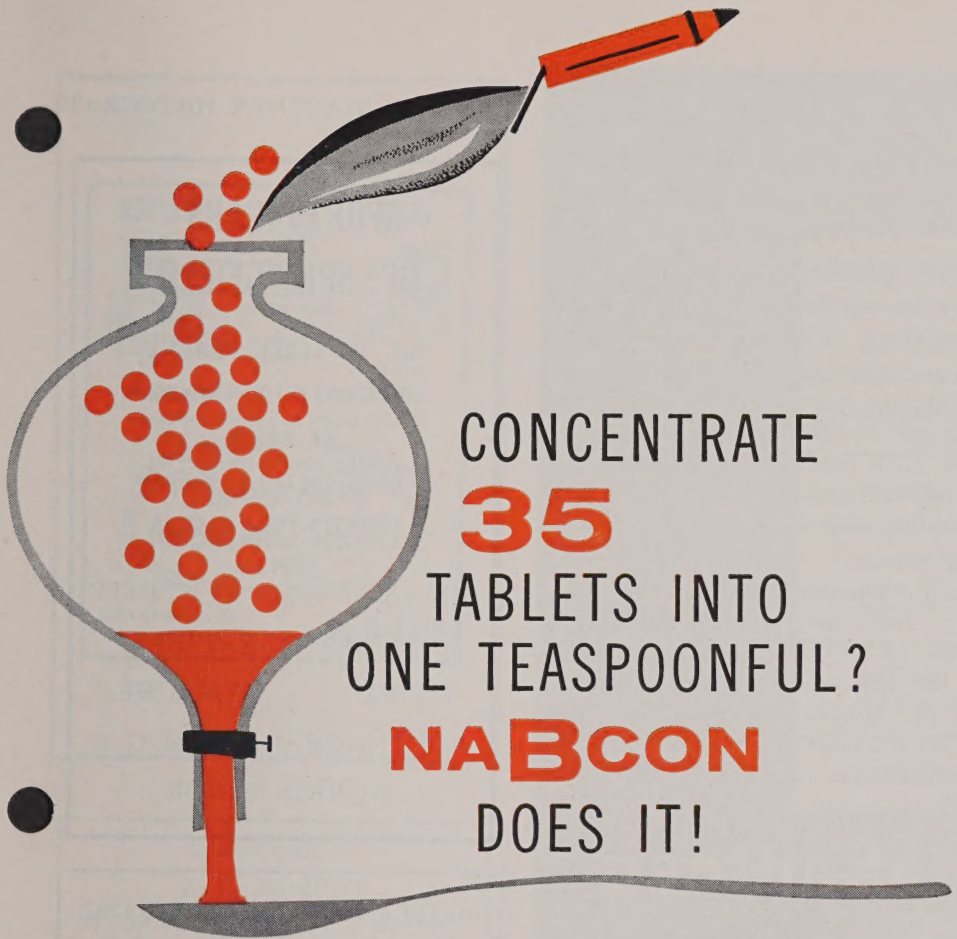

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY (1959-1960)

The Hampden District Medical Society has reached a new peak of 506 members, a gain of 10 over last year.

Four district meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 197. Socio-economic problems have been numerous enough to occupy the complete attention of those attending without bringing in outside speakers.

Unfortunately, the present secretary does not possess the staying power of his predecessor and this will be his final year in the position. Under the skillful tutelage of Dr. Allen G. Rice I found it not too difficult to surmount the complexities of the job with no major boners. Dr. Ray T. Smith has worked with me, closely, for the past two years and I am sure he will serve the society admirably.

My experience as secretary was an enlightening one and I enjoyed the wide association with fellow physicians that would normally not come within my limited sphere. Of one thing I am positive—Hampden District is a live organization, truly representative in its make-up, and dedicated to protecting and advancing the ethical principles of the medical profession.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry N. Memery, M. D., Sec.

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ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL REPORT of COMMITTEE on MALPRACTICE and MEDICO-LEGAL AFFAIRS (1959-1960)

This year the Committee has been inactive because there appeared to be no problems for consideration at the moment.

The Hampden Bar Ass'n. has plans to develop a "Mock Trial" for demonstration purposes later this Spring, but as yet plans are incomplete.

Apparently many individual lawyers are not using the prescribed forms in accident cases. This has been pointed out to the officers of the Bar Ass'n. but it would be well for physicians to demand that they be used, for they are available at the Court House.

Wayne C. Barnes, M. D.
Chairman

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ANNUAL REPORT PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY (1959-1960)

The Public Relations Committee concerned itself this year with the Science Fairs in the high schools. The list of participating schools, the winners and their exhibits, and the doctors who judged the Fairs will be published in the Hippocrat.

It is anticipated that we shall have the Indoctrination Dinner Meeting for new members of the Society in May.

There were two meetings of the State Committee of Public Relations which I attended in Boston.

J. M. Baker, M.D.
Chairman

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1959-1960)

This year again no medical recruitment problems presented themselves. Because of this no meetings were held, and no action was otherwise taken.

Noah N. Feldman, M.D.
Chairman

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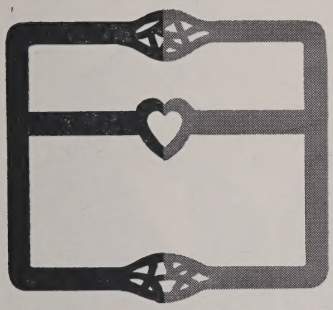

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REFERENCES: 1. Montero, A. C.; Rochelle, J. B., III, and Ford, R. V.: New England J. Med. 260:872 (April 23) 1959. 2. Fuchs, M.; Bodi, T., and Moyer, J. H.: Am. J. Cardiol. 3:676 (May) 1959. 3. Fuchs, M., and others: Monographs on Therapy 4:43 (April) 1959. 4. Montero, A. C.; Rochelle, J. B., III, and Ford, R. V.: Am. Heart J. 57:484 (April) 1959. 5. Rochelle, J. B., III; Montero, A. C., and Ford, R. V.: Antibiotic Med. & Clin. Ther. 6:267 (May) 1959.

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AUXILIARY DOINGS

Left to right: Dr. Harry N. Memery, Mrs. Edwin J. Gillis and Mrs. Adrian Delerzon

AUXILIARY DOINGS

March 30th, on proclamation by Governor Furculo, Mayor O'Connor of Springfield and Mayor Resnic of Holyoke, has been named Doctors' Day in recognition of the dedicated service rendered to society by the medical profession. As a salute to the doctors of this area, the Woman's Auxiliary to the Hampden District Medical Society is making a donation in their name to the American Medical Education Foundation. Dr. Harry N. Memery, Secretary of the Medical Socity, is shown accepting the tribute for the Hampden District Medical Society. With him are Mrs. Adrian Delerzon, chairman of Health Education and Mrs. E. J. Gillis, chairman of the American Medical Education Foundation. Mrs. Arthur E. Gramse is President of the Woman's Auxiliary.

The American Medical Education Foundation was created in 1951 by leaders in medicine and sponsored by the American Medical Association. Its purpose is to raise funds from the medical profession for unrestricted grants to medical schools to assist in the costly process of medical education.

Doctors' Day originated in Missouri in 1949 and is now observed in many states. March 30th is the anniversary of the first use of anesthesia in an operation by Dr. Crawford Long in 1842.

Letters have been sent to all the clergy in this area asking for special recognition of Doctors' Day, on Sunday, March 27th.

Mrs. Stanley Dixon,
Publicity Chairman

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ANNUAL REPORTS

Several Annual Reports from Hampden District officers and committee chairmen appear in this issue. They are all informational in character. Reports bearing 'recommendations' will be presented, as usual, at the Annual Meeting (April 26).

Chairmen presenting committee reports at the Annual Meeting are requested to submit a copy to the Hippocrat.

Editor

ANNUAL REPORT
of
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
(1959-1960)

The year of this report has been a particularly active one. Throughout the year progress reports have been published in the Hippocrat.

Hampden District in initiating the move to alter the present Harmful Drug Act made a real contribution to the principle of free practice of medicine in Massachusetts. A somewhat favorable compromise appears likely to pass the legislature this year.

Numerous bills have been endorsed by the State Legislative Committee, and have been conscientiously supported at hearings; many other bills, which if enacted, would be very unsatisfactory to the physicians of Massachusetts, have been equally vigorously opposed.

Hampden District has, with forthright honesty and determination, raised its voice repeatedly in opposition to any encroachment on the free practice of medicine.

There has been, so far as your Legislative Councilor is concerned, a very sincere and helpful cooperation with those at Society Headquarters. I have been repeatedly told that Hampden District opinions are well received, and that our society has always been regarded with admiration and respect.

To better inform our membership on Legislative matters, we will have a far wider distribution of Legislative information to our membership in the coming years. The Massachusetts Medical Society Headquarters are more than willing to do this. I only hope that the information reports will be carefully studied so that we may all be better informed on legislative matters.

It is refreshing to see a Society as interested as ours in matters of legislation, which is in the best interests of the physicians of Massachusetts. We deserve the credit which is ours.

I wish to personally thank the members of our District Legislative Committee, and the officers of our District Society for their helpfulness and cooperation.

Theodore R. Miner, M. D.
Chairman

RELATIVE VALUE SYSTEM

The Committee on Insurance, Labor Relations, and Industrial Accidents will propose that the following be voted on at the annual meeting of the Hampden District Medical Society on April 26, 1960:

1. That the district favors the principle of a Relative Value System of estimating fees and agrees to abide by it when created and approved by the Society in its final form.
2. That a committee be appointed to study and decide on an appropriate Relative Value System for our Society.
3. That the latter committee establish its relative values only after thorough polling of, and instruction from members of the Society.

Warren D. Platt, M. D., Chairman
Committee on Insurance, Labor Relations and Industrial Accidents

COMPLIMENTS
Ernest A. Byron
SPRINGFIELD

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

TIME:	Tuesday, April 26, Social Hour 6 p. m. * Dinner (Smorgasbord) 6:30 at expense of Society
PLACE:	Storrowtown 1305 Memorial Avenue West Springfield
AGENDA:	Reports of Officers and Committees Amendments to By-Laws Relative Value System - (see page 14) Other Important Organizational & Socio-economic matters Election of Officers

YOUR PRESENCE IS URGENTLY REQUESTED

Harry N. Memery,
Secretary

* PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME.

CORRESPONDENCE

By Way of Clarification

Dear Hippocrat:

In "Highlights of February (3) Council Meeting," appearing on pages 24 and 25 of the March *Hippocrat*, it is correctly stated that space will be made available in the proposed Countway—Boston Medical Library for the offices of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The additional statement appears that the business of the *Journal* will remain at Society Headquarters in order to preserve its identification with the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Actually such a division was mentioned in the discussion of Dr. Sprague's letter regarding the merging of the libraries only as an unofficial suggestion. The proposed moving of the *Journal* offices when the Library moves was mentioned briefly in passing, no mention or resolution regarding it having been presented to the Council.

Those of us who have long been responsible for the publication of the *Journal* believe that its eventual location and the details of its operation should be determined only after a careful study of the details of its operation.

As it looks from here at this moment any unnecessary division of its closely-knit activities would be a misfortune.

Joseph Garland, M. D., Editor
New England Journal
of Medicine

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"E. B." Gets Support

Dear Hippocrat:

Here is another (and newer) 'quote' in confirmation of Edmund Burke's opinion. This one is by C. H. Parkinson in a recently published article: Can Democracy Survive?

"After all, the representative is not a delegate. He should vote according to his conscience and knowledge, not according to the wishes of people who were not present at the debate."

Frederic Hagler, M. D.

Facts vs. Impressions

(Editor's Note:

Earlier this year Dr. R. T. Miller of Ware submitted to the Hippocrat an item of correspondence entitled "Who Controls Blue Shield?" This was referred for comment to our chairman of Committee on Blue Shield District Professional Service, Dr. M. Gene Black, who in turn referred it to the Blue Shield office in Boston. Dr. Black's reply finally arrived, but since no signature was attached to the letter it gave the impression of having originated in Boston. It has since been established that this impression was erroneous. While it is true that part of Dr. Black's statement contained a resume of Mr. Reed's letter, other parts were based on material derived from other sources. To further correct the erroneous impression Mr. Reed's letter to Dr. Black is reproduced on the next page with the permission of both.

December 29, 1959

M. Gene Black, M. D., Chairman
Hampden District
Professional Service Committee
575 Beech Street
Holyoke, Massachusetts

Dear Doctor Black:

Please forgive the delay in replying to your letter of December 18th. Year-end activities have been extremely heavy and as a consequence my correspondence is in arrears.

Concerning your question relative to the administrative structure of Blue Shield, I shall attempt to give you as much detailed information as possible.

The members of the Blue Shield Board of Directors are recommended by a Committee of The Massachusetts Medical Society and are elected by the Voting Members of the Massachusetts Medical Society. As you know, the Voting Members comprise the officers of the Society plus one elected member from each of the district societies. Blue Shield Board Members are elected for three years. The Board may consist of 15, 18 or 21 members. Currently there are 18 members. According to the By-Laws a Board member or any number of Board members may be removed for cause at any time by the Voting Members.

The Board of Directors determine Blue Shield policies and is required by statute to see that the affairs of the Corporation are conducted within the provisions of the law.

The physicians on the Board of Directors are designated as the Central Professional Service Committee and to this Committee there has been delegated control and supervision over the medical aspects of all matters relating to (a) the standards of medical care to be furnished subscribers and covered dependents, (b) the extent and classification of medical benefits to be furnished subscribers and covered dependents, (c) the determination of income levels below which subscribers and covered dependents shall be classified as service-benefit members, (d) the compensation fee schedule to be paid participating physicians and participating dentists and (e) the admission, suspension and discipline of participating physicians and participating dentists. All rules and regulations of the corporation relating to the foregoing shall be initiated by the Central Professional Service Committee and may be thereafter adopted by the directors, but only after approval by the majority of the members of the corporation, which approval may be given in writing without a meeting of the members, provided, however, that a rule or regulation relating to (b) above may be adopted by the directors without approval of the members, provided the said members have been given ten days' notice thereof and provided further that no rule or regulation relating to (c) above shall be adopted by

(over)

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the Board of Directors until approval by the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

You will note from the above that Blue Shield service-benefit income limits must be approved by the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society. I might add here that the Schedule of Fees which are promulgated by the Fee Committee are approved by the Executive Committee of the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

As pointed out above, the Blue Shield Board is required by law to manage the affairs, property and business of the corporation. However, over the past 18 years there has been excellent liaison between the Blue Shield Board and the Massachusetts Medical Society and it is my impression that the decisions of the Blue Shield Board especially in matters directly related to the practice of medicine have been made only after due consultation with appropriate committees of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Except for the determination of Blue Shield income limits, the Blue Shield Board would be responsible for making final decisions. A careful reading of the By-Laws and the Enabling Act clearly indicates that the ultimate control of Blue Shield is in the hands of the Medical Society by virtue of the fact that the Blue Shield Board is elected by and may be removed by the Voting Members of the corporation which is the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society. Moreover the control of the service-benefit income limits is vested in the Council.

I am not sure that I have a good answer to the question which you have asked concerning a policy disagreement between the Medical Society and the Blue Shield Board. My guess would be that in such an event there could always be recourse to the courts. However, this is purely a personal opinion.

I trust that nothing I have said in the past would cause you to believe that Blue Shield is in a position to routinely determine a patient's income status before services are rendered by a physician. Because as a matter of fact we are not in a position to do this. We are however able and willing to assist a physician in determining a subscriber's income status after a service has been rendered for which the physician has made an additional charge and the subscriber claims to be a service-benefit member and this is not acceptable to the physician. Blue Shield will do everything possible to procure from the subscriber necessary information that he is or is not entitled to service benefits. I am quite certain that as a result of our field service activities and meetings with medical secretaries most of the physicians' offices are aware of this service and are currently using it. However, in the near future I will direct a letter to each physician in the Commonwealth and enclose a copy of the form which the subscriber is required to complete in order to establish his eligibility for service benefits.

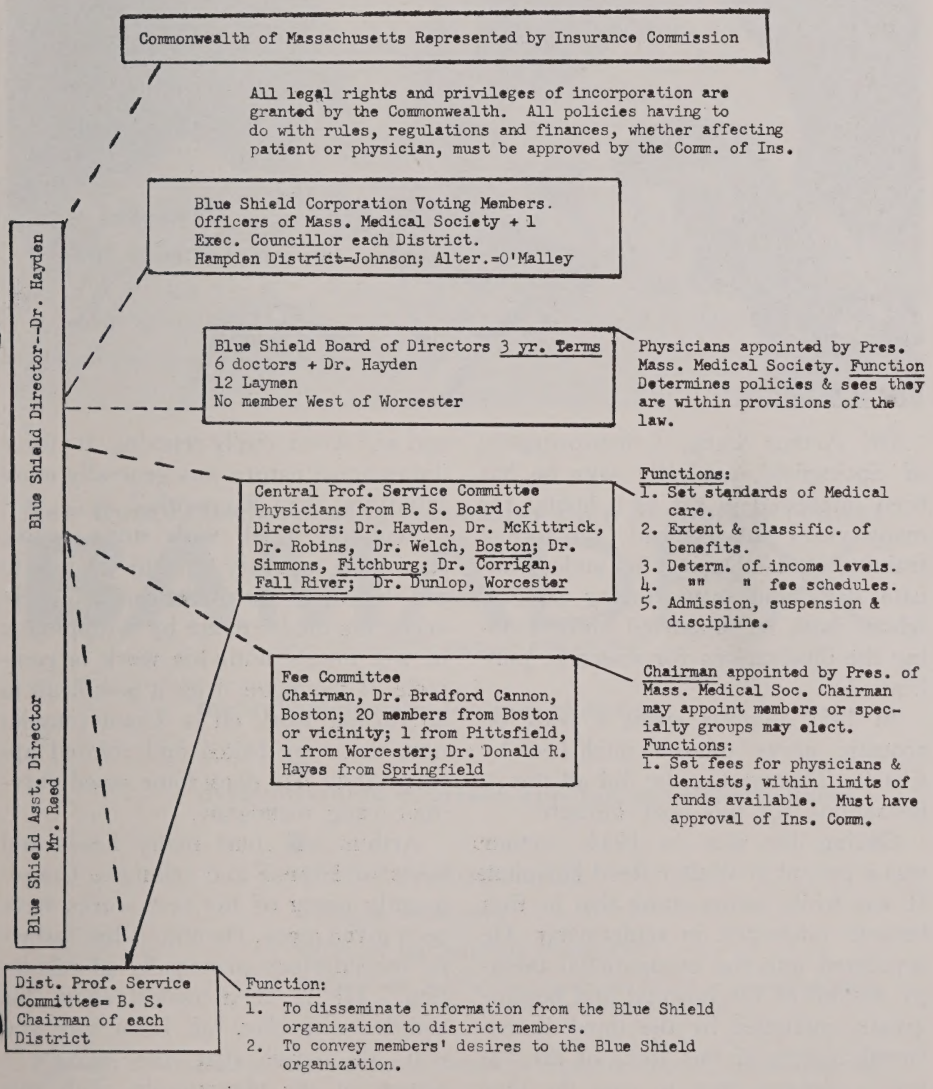
I trust I have adequately answered your questions and I thank you for writing. May I take this opportunity to wish you all good things for the New Year.

Cordially,
L. T. Reed
Assistant Executive Director

(See next page)

P. S. On page 8 of the enclosed BLUE SHIELD DIGEST is a chart showing the relationship between the Massachusetts Medical Society and Blue Shield. It would be helpful if you could persuade the HAMPDEN HIPPOCRAT to publish this chart as a means of informing physicians concerning some of these relationships.

L. T. R.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Hampden District=Johnson; Alter.=O'Malley
Blue Shield Director--Dr. Hayden
Blue Shield Board of Directors 3 yr. Terms
6 doctors + Dr. Hayden
12 Laymen
No member West of Worcester
Physicians appointed by Pres. Mass. Medical Society. Function Determines policies & sees they are within provisions of the law.
Central Prof. Service Committee
Physicians from B. S. Board of Directors: Dr. Hayden, Dr. McKittrick, Dr. Robins, Dr. Welch, Boston; Dr. Simmons, Fitchburg; Dr. Corrigan, Fall River; Dr. Dunlop, Worcester
Functions:
1. Set standards of Medical care.
2. Extent & classific. of benefits.
3. Determ. of income levels.
4. " " fee schedules.
5. Admission, suspension & discipline.
Fee Committee
Chairman, Dr. Bradford Cannon, Boston; 20 members from Boston or vicinity; 1 from Pittsfield, 1 from Worcester; Dr. Donald R. Hayes from Springfield
Chairman appointed by Pres. of Mass. Medical Soc. Chairman may appoint members or specialty groups may elect.
Functions:
1. Set fees for physicians & dentists, within limits of funds available. Must have approval of Ins. Comm.
Blue Shield Asst. Director Mr. Reed
Dist. Prof. Service Committee= B. S. Chairman of each District
Function:
1. To disseminate information from the Blue Shield organization to district members.
2. To convey members' desires to the Blue Shield organization.

THE DOCTOR AND HIS HOBBY

V — Sculpture

Dr. Arthur Pava, a neurosurgeon of Springfield, modestly says he has been interested in art as a hobby for many years but has had "no formal training in it." During his undergraduate days and even during medical school days, he supported himself doing the illustrations for scientific publications.

In 1957, Arthur wrote a book on acoustic nerve tumors published by Charles Thomas Co., he did all the illustrations for this book himself.

During the war in 1943, Arthur was a patient at Walter Reed Hospital. It was while recuperating that he first became interested in sculpturing. He wandered into the occupational therapy section of the hospital and became greatly intrigued by the third dimensional aspects of this form of art. "It was a pleasant way to pass the time and was wonderfully relaxing. Its three dimensional nature was generally more satisfying than flat work."

Sculptors work with stone, wood, clay, bone or ivory. Arthur prefers to use clay so he can correct mistakes. He keeps his model moist by wrapping it in wet towels until his work is complete. If the model dries it is difficult to do further work on it. Upon completion, these are baked and colored appropriately. He does some wood carvings using mahogany.

Arthur has done many heads and busts of friends and relatives. Consequently many of his best works have been given away. He enjoys his "arbeitic meanderings principally as relaxation." He is very modest about his abilities with clay, but I am sure you will all agree that the models shown in the photographs with this

commentary reveal the outstanding abilities Arthur has in modeling the detailed features and facial expressions of his subjects.

This is fine work and should be encouraged. Your talent is not limited to your brain carving!

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AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

AMENDMENT BY ADDITION

Chapter II, Section 1

Last year the Council of the Massachusetts Medical Society voted to include Ware within the boundries of the Hampden District Medical Society. In order to conform with this change I propose to amend Section 1 of Chapter II of our by-laws by adding the word Ware following Wales and preceding Westfield.

Since our by-laws must not conflict with those of the State Society's the adoption of this amendment is mandatory.

Ralph T. Miller, M. D.

AMENDMENT BY SUBSTITUTION

Chapter VI, Section 4 (a)

Because of the ever increasing demands on the Hampden Hippocrat the Board of Editors proposes an amendment to section 4 (a) of Chapter VI, which would increase the number of Associate Editors from six (6) to eight (8). The revised section would read as follows:

> This Board shall be elected by the Executive Committee and shall consist of Editor-in-Chief, Assistant Editor, Secretary and Business Manager, Assistant Secretary and Business Manager and eight (8) Associate Editors.

Max Millman, M. D.
Editor-in-Chief

THE MEDICAL CREDITS DIVISION

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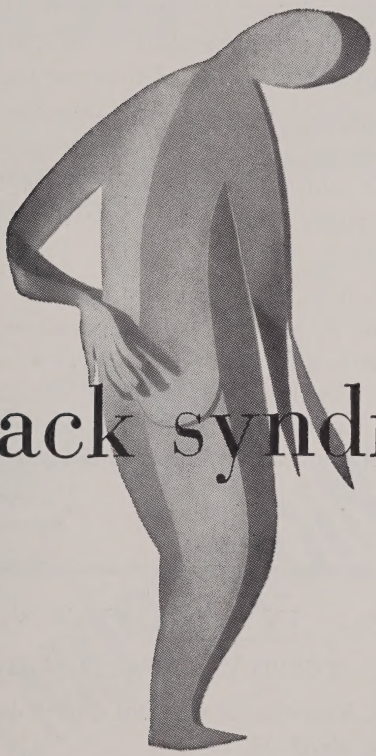

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POLITICAL STRAWS (continued from page 2)

whose current objectives are to:

"1. Identifying and analyzing the health needs of the aged,
2. Appraising available health resources for the aged,
3. Fostering effective methods of payment for the health care of the aged,
4. Developing community programs to foster the best possible health care for the aged.
5. Fostering health education programs for the aged and
6. Informing the public of the facts released to the health care of the aged."

The Joint Council, it is hoped, will bring forth soon a plan beneficial to the needy elderly people in our midst. It is hoped also that it will prove acceptable to the politicians in Washington. However, with election just around the corner this is not very likely to happen. Our politicians, it would seem, are more interested in having their name and party label attached to a give-away plan than in the health and welfare of the public.

J.C.A. and M.M.

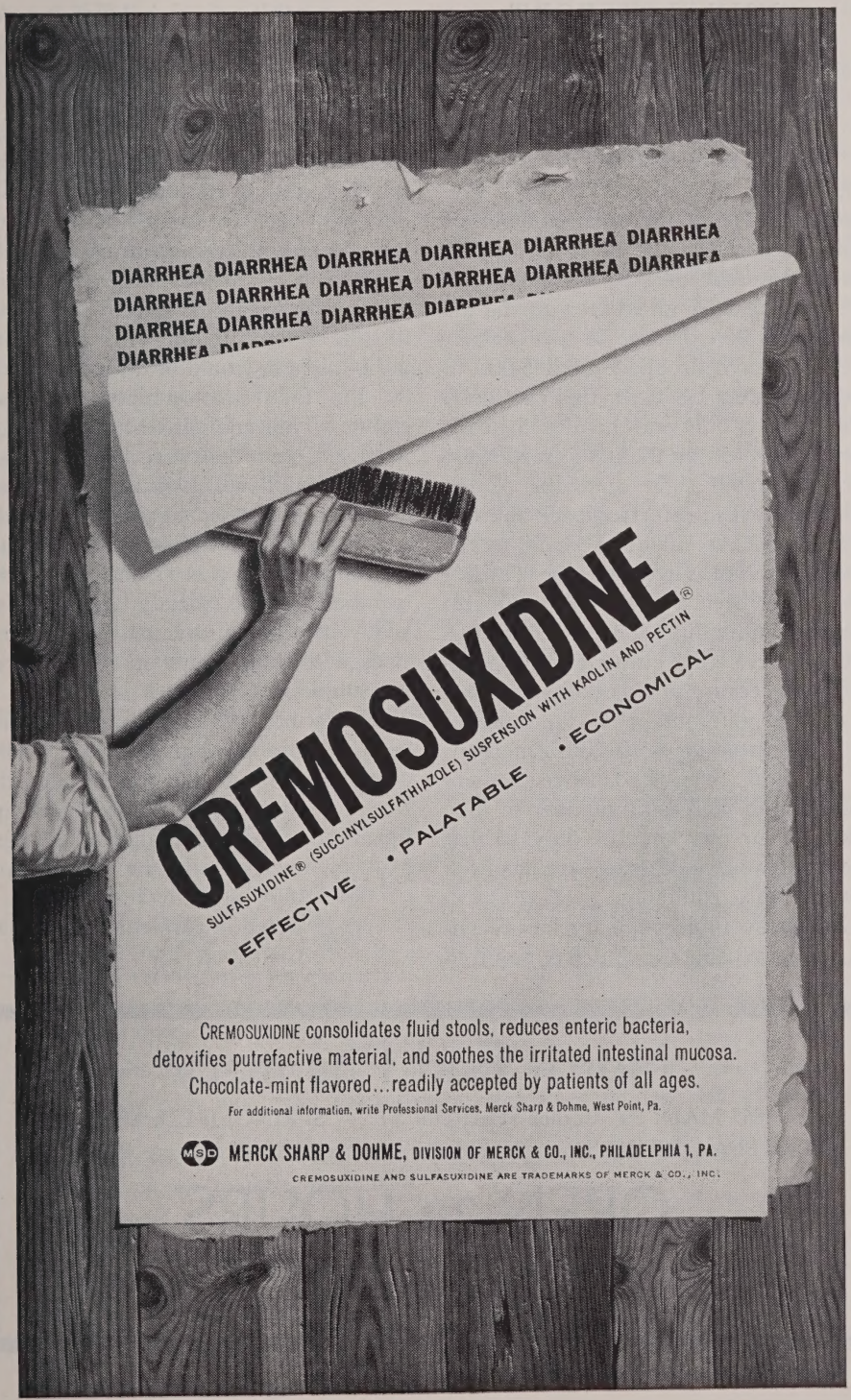
IN MEMORIAM

JOSEPH V. KOWALSKI, M. D.

Dr. Joseph V. Kowalski of 67 South Street died at the Mary Lane Hospital, Ware, on March 23, 1960.

Dr. Kowalski was born in Aljustow, Poland on February 2, 1909 and came to this country at about one year of age, his family settling in Philadelphia. He attended Hahnemann Medical School and graduated from Middlebury College of Medicine and Surgery in 1933. His practice in Ware remained uninterrupted except for service in the Army of the United States Medical Corps from 1942 to 1946 from which he was discharged with the rank of Major. He belonged to the Massachusetts Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the American Academy of General Practice. He was also a member of the Springfield Academy of Medicine and the Brookfield Medical Club. He was on the staff of the Mary Lane Hospital, Ware. He was also Medical Examiner of the Fourth Hampshire District.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the surviving members of his family and to his many friends and associates.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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE COMMITTEE (1959-1960)

The year 1959-1960 has been a fairly uneventful one and marked by a further decrease in the total number of calls placed and handled by the Emergency Medical Service in the entire area. In the Springfield area during the nine years of existence of this service, the calls have dropped from 5,000 to approximately 1,850 for this past year. Statistically, only one-third of the calls were answered by the man on the roster, and again rigid screening of the calls resulted in referring back approximately 60 percent of the calls to the doctor currently treating the patient. There has been a noticeable improvement in individual coverage during a practitioner's time away from his office, and because of this there has been a marked diminution in the number of people needing to use the Emergency Medical Service. Likewise, there has been an increasing number of men taking their own tour of duty so that the burden of emergency care has been spread more equitably.

No unfavorable publicity has reached the newspapers, but it has required constant effort and vigilance on the part of this committee and the Public Relations Committee to accomplish this.

While our service is on a voluntary basis and serves the needs of this and the surrounding communities, a House bill has been presented, authorizing local Boards of Health to set up individual rosters so that all practitioners, licensed to practice, would be required to take a tour of duty for a 24-hour period. There would be a fine of $100.-00 for failure to comply with this statute. This committee and the Legislative Committee have been opposed to such a bill which is a punitive one and discriminatory against the medical profession. Constant effort and constant vigilance is essential, and the members of the Society are urged to write to their individual representatives with their views on this particular subject.

The work of this committee has been a more pleasant one due to the cooperation of all the members of the Society and to the extraordinary diplomatic coverage and handling of these calls by the girls on the switchboard of the Emergency Medical Service.

Peter S. Zarecki, Jr., M. D.
Chairman

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ANNUAL REPORT of BOARD OF EDITORS (1959-1960)

Early in the fiscal year the Executive Committee favored the Board of Editors by designating Dr. Richard A. Maher, Holyoke, as Assistant Secretary and Business Manager; and Dr. H. Bernard Tillman as Associate Editor. Both have since proved their mettle, and both are well on their way to making themselves indispensable to the Hippocrat and the Society.

In September the Hippocrat sponsored its First Annual Essay Contest, the chief purpose of which was to stimulate interest in medical problems among the younger members, and to familiarize the Society with the views, opinions and sentiments of this important element in our midst. The winner of this contest was Dr. Robert D. O'Malley, Holyoke, for his essay "Blue Shield - Milestone or Mill Stone?", which appeared in the January issue of the Hippocrat. The Board of Editors is now planning a Second Annual Essay Contest with participation open to the entire membership.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society the Board of Editors is planning to propose an amendment which would increase the number of Associate Editors from six (6) to eight (8) (page 22). This is deemed advisable in view of the rapid growth of the Hippocrat and because of the ever increasing demands upon it.

The Board of Editors is deeply grateful to the Fellows for the many suggestions and items submitted; to the officers of the Society for their confidence and support; to its business manager and assistant business manager for keeping the Hippocrat's finances in the black, and to the Elm Tree Press for a printing job superbly done.

Max Millman, M. D.
Editor-in-Chief

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ACADEMY

On May 10, the Annual Meeting of the Springfield Academy of Medicine will be held. In addition to committee reports and the election of officers, GRAND ROUNDS No. 8, sponsored by the Upjohn Company, will be presented. This is a sound movie entitled "CLINICAL PROBLEMS IN CHEST DISEASE". It will be its first showing in this area.

Clinicians Participating in Grand Rounds No. 8

Dr. Lauren V. Ackerman
Washington University

Dr. Thomas H. Burford
Washington University
Dr. L. Henry Garland
Stanford University (Moderator)
Dr. Alfred Goldman
Washington University
Dr. Averill A. Liebow
Yale University
Dr. Richard H. Overholt
Tufts University
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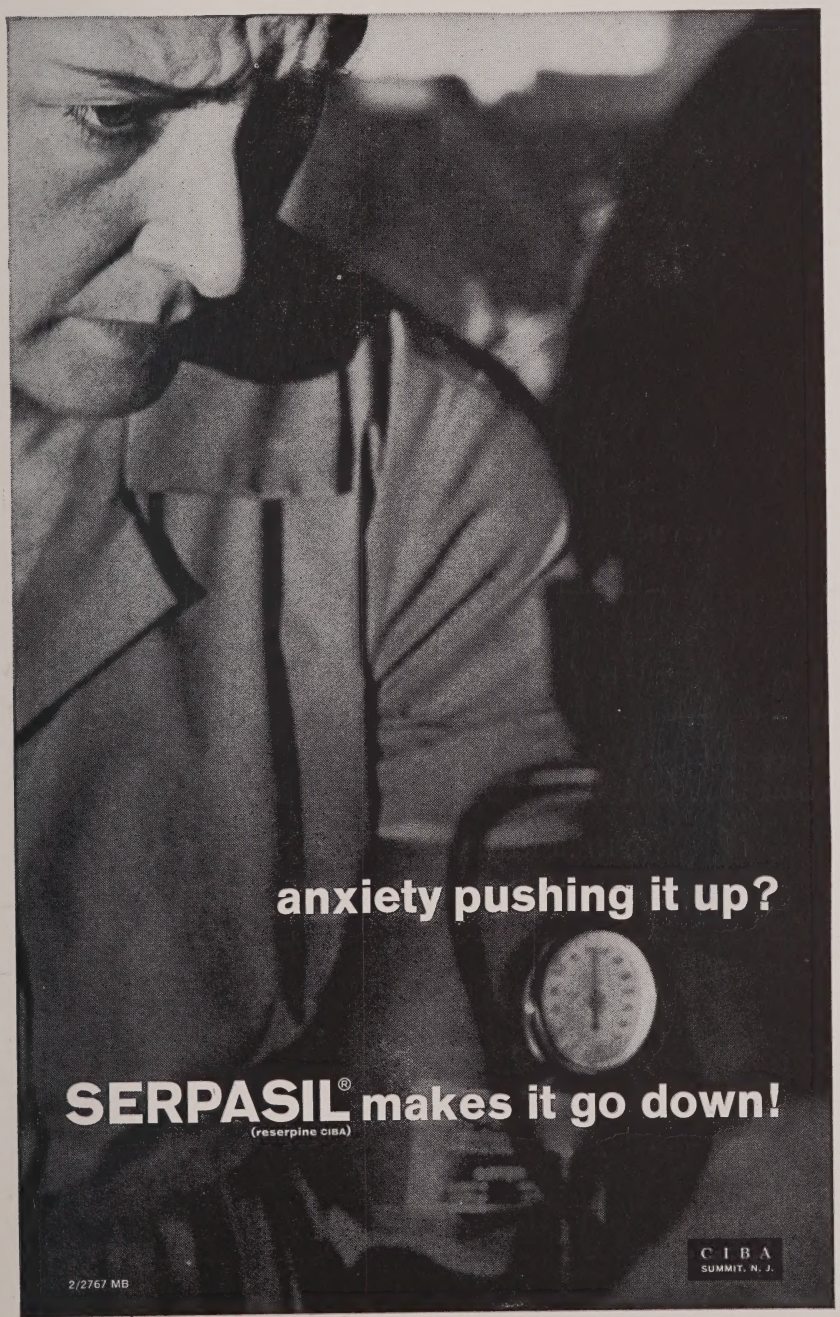
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